C 3031

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8 February 1949

Captain C. T. Bonney, USN
Harvard University Naval R.O.T.C. Unit
28 Divinity Place
Cambridge 38, Mass.

Dear Carroll:

It was a great joy to receive your letter of 29 January because, although it seems impossible, we have never been around the same locality since your trip through Panama a long, long time ago. I do hope now that you may get down here or that I may get to Boston to see you so that, at least, we shan't be isolated for so long again.

In regard to your invitation to lecture, I am awfully sorry that I must decline. It is practically impossible to give any kind of a lecture on intelligence which comes under the heading of "unclassified," and from bitter experience we have all learned that it is impossible to run an intelligence agency with a lot of publicity. The Central Intelligence Agency, itself, has been the recipient of much unwanted publicity which we have tried to discourage. It looks as if we are beginning now to have a little success in this respect. Consequently, I should hate to break up that trend by giving a lecture myself. So far we have limited lectures about the Central Intelligence Agency, made by personnel of the Central Intelligence Agency, to lectures at some of the service schools before very limited numbers of officers who have previously been cleared to receive classified information, and we must hold to such restrictions.

A lecture on intelligence with only unclassified material would be the most boresome thing that could be imagined, and I shouldn't like to inflict that on your students! I am sorry that I can't give you a more agreeable answer, but I hope you will understand.

Janie and I send our thanks for your good wishes to stay with you as well as our own best wishes to Peg and yourself.

Sincerely,

Signed & dispatched 2/9/49

R. H. Hillenkoetter
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central
    Intelligence

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